

Mr. Speaker, the crimes ISIS has committed against Iraqi and Syrian religious and ethnic minorities are horrific.

The victims of this campaign of terror are innocent and in dire need of humanitarian and stabilization assistance.

As the global leader and champion of human rights and human dignity, the United States has an obligation to lead the international effort to defeat ISIS and ameliorate the suffering caused by its heinous acts.

H.R. 390 is a welcome and positive step in the right direction and I urge all Members to join me in voting for this important legislation.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 390, the Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act of 2017.

In March of 2016, Congress declared in unequivocal terms that the persecution of Christians, Yazidis, and other ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq and Syria by ISIS constituted genocide.

This was a seminal moment in the U.S. Congress because it's only the third time in history that Congress has declared a genocide. Unfortunately, the conditions for the tens of thousands of survivors of these crimes against humanity grow worse each day.

Mr. Speaker, we are witnessing the systematic extermination of Christians and other religious and ethnic minorities at the hands of ISIS.

And despite the fact that Congress has appropriated over \$1 billion in humanitarian aid to help these communities in Fiscal Year 2017, the money has not reached survivors because the only organizations focused solely on aiding survivors are religious groups, which the State Department will not provide assistance to.

For example, the Archdiocese of Erbil is currently providing food, housing, and medical care to more than 70,000 Christians who escaped death at the hands of ISIS. Even though the Archdiocese of Erbil is providing assistance to survivors at the center of this crisis, the State Department will not distribute U.S. assistance through religious organizations. H.R. 390 would resolve this ongoing problem.

The bill directs the Secretary of State and USAID to provide assistance directly to entities, including faith-based entities that are effectively providing assistance to genocide survivors or other persecuted religious and ethnic communities on the ground in Iraq and Syria. Importantly, the aid can only be used for humanitarian relief on the ground, not to support the general operations of the church or faith-based entity.

H.R. 390 also includes important provisions that will help the international community document the crimes against humanity that have been committed by ISIS, hold the perpetrators accountable, and ensure we learn from the horrors we have witnessed over the last six years so that we can one day prevent the next large-scale genocide from occurring.

I want to thank the bill's sponsor and my partner in this ongoing effort to help the tens of thousands of survivors of genocide in Iraq and Syria, Congressman CHRIS SMITH. He has been a tireless advocate on behalf of these persecuted communities and I commend him for the work he has done to get this bill through the House.

Thirteen months after the House and Senate took the important step to label these

crimes against humanity as genocide, my colleagues now have the opportunity to help bring an end to the suffering.

I urge my colleague to vote "YES" on H.R. 390.

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 390, the Iraq and Syria Genocide Emergency Relief and Accountability Act.

For too long, the Middle East—the birth place of Christianity—has been the place where thousands of Christians have been led to their deaths. The Pew Research Center reports that Christians are the world's most persecuted faith community, with Middle Eastern Christians experiencing this most severely.

In 2012, President Obama declared what is happening to Christians in the Middle East as "genocide", but not much has been done to respond to this crisis.

This bill will provide the dire supports and safeguards that Christians and other religious minorities desperately need. Specifically, it gives prioritized consideration to Christians and other religious minorities in the Middle East for admission into the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, while keeping standard vetting procedures in place.

This is so important given that less than half of one percent of Syrians chosen for resettlement between 2011 and 2016 have been Christians.

H.R. 390 also supports entities that are conducting criminal investigations into the bad actors perpetrating violence against Christians and supports groups helping victims of genocide in the region.

Clearly, persecuted Christians in the Middle East desperately need our support. As a fellow Christian, I will keep working to bring attention to the failures of our current refugee program in helping these individuals, as well as promote efforts to provide resources and assistance to them in their time of need.

I applaud the passage of H.R. 390 and hope that the Senate will give it timely consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 390, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to provide emergency relief for victims of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes in Iraq and Syria, for accountability for perpetrators of these crimes, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACKS IN MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 355) condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Manchester, United Kingdom, on May 22, 2017, expressing heartfelt condolences, and reaffirming unwavering support for the

special relationship between our peoples and nations in the wake of these attacks, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 355

Whereas, on May 22, 2017, a terrorist triggered improvised explosive devices at the Manchester Arena following the conclusion of a concert by American recording artist Ariana Grande;

Whereas the blasts took the lives of at least 22 people, and seriously injured 59, many of whom were children;

Whereas British officials are continuing to investigate the bombing to determine whether it was perpetrated by a lone individual or by a terrorist network;

Whereas, on May 23, 2017, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) claimed responsibility for the attacks and threatened further attacks;

Whereas on June 3, 2017, three terrorists drove a van into pedestrians on London Bridge before committing multiple stabbing attacks against innocent bystanders in the Borough Market area of London;

Whereas British police quickly arrived at the scene and successfully ended the terrorist attack;

Whereas at least seven people were killed, and more than 48 wounded in the terrorist attack;

Whereas British police continue to investigate the incident to ensure that all involved in planning or supporting the attack are brought to justice;

Whereas the horrific attacks at the Manchester Arena and in London are the latest in a series of deadly assaults by ISIS in Europe in recent years;

Whereas British first responders reacted swiftly and heroically to both attacks, taking immediate measures to secure the areas and care for the wounded in ways that prevented further loss of life;

Whereas Prime Minister Theresa May stated on May 23, 2017, that "all acts of terrorism are cowardly attacks on innocent people but this attack stands out for its appalling, sickening cowardice, deliberately targeting innocent, defenseless children and young people" and paid tribute to "the spirit of Manchester and the spirit of Britain, a spirit that through years of conflict and terrorism has never been broken and will never be broken."

Whereas President Donald Trump condemned those who perpetrated the attacks and offered any and all assistance to the United Kingdom as it investigates these attacks and works to bring the terrorists to justice; and

Whereas the United Kingdom has been a steadfast ally to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the recent terrorist attacks in Manchester, United Kingdom, on May 22, 2017, and in London, United Kingdom, on June 3, 2017, and extends its deepest sympathies to all those affected by these tragedies;

(2) reaffirms the American commitment to the special relationship with the United Kingdom, and supports the efforts of the British Government to bring all those involved with these heinous attacks to justice;

(3) appreciates the significant efforts by the United Kingdom to combat terrorism;

(4) recognizes the persistent and growing threat posed by Islamist terrorist groups worldwide, and reaffirms the commitment of

the United States to the multilateral, global fight against such violent extremists; and

(5) remains committed to the defense of universal democratic values.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Congressman GREGORY MEEKS, the ranking member of the Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats Subcommittee; and Congressman PAUL COOK, the vice chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. I recognize them for their work on this timely and important resolution.

On May 22, as the world knows, in a cowardly act of terrorism, a suicide bomber attacked those exiting a concert at the Manchester Arena in England. These were principally teenagers and children who were attending that concert, in some cases, parents. What many had planned to be a night of joy, a festival, a chance for them to gather to celebrate turned with one horrifying blast into a nightmare of chaos and devastation, and 23 innocent people were killed, 166 were severely injured, and many of those victims were children.

This past week, in another cowardly attack, terrorists struck unsuspecting and unarmed pedestrians on London Bridge, and then those terrorists went on an attack against innocent bystanders in London's Borough Market area, slashing and killing, and thus far, at least 7 victims have died and 48 have been seriously wounded. We grieve their loss and send our prayers and condolences to their families.

We also commend the brave and selfless actions of British first responders who, in the wake of both attacks, moved to quickly secure the areas, aid the wounded, and prevent further loss of life.

Our deranged enemies, it is clear, are intent on striking us wherever and whenever possible, often choosing to prey upon the most vulnerable, the most innocent in our society, preying, in this case, on children and teenagers. We must be even more determined in our resolve to stop them and we must continue to build upon our own capabilities, strengthening our cooperation with our friends and allies like the United Kingdom.

Mr. Speaker, the United Kingdom has been a staunch friend and ally, unparalleled in its support for the United States, including as a partner in our counterterrorism efforts. At this sad time, we stand solidly beside our friends and allies as they mourn, heal, and most assuredly rise again following this tragedy. Passage of this resolution is just one way that we can demonstrate this support.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in unanimously supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for H. Res. 355. This resolution was submitted by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. COOK). It is a strong message condemning in the strongest terms the most recent terrorist attacks in Manchester and London. We worked quickly in the committee to pass this resolution in a bipartisan way. I thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL again for their bipartisan efforts.

□ 1730

I would like to lend my voice of condolence to the families and friends of those who were killed and injured. I pray that the Manchester and London communities remain resilient and continue their beautiful human display of kindness in the depths of such tragedy.

I read numerous human stories about neighbors, faith leaders, and local businessmen and -women coming together to aid their fellow citizens with open arms and compassionate hearts. The people of Manchester, London, and the U.K. in general show the rest of the world how to persevere in the face of terror.

Finally, let us remember that the attacks are directed at our open societies that we have built over many generations. Let us remember that our response will set the tone for not only the security of the present day but also the faith in such open societies and the unbreakable bonds of community for years to come.

We will continue to work in the Foreign Affairs Committee to bring about justice and encourage peace. The United States admires the Manchester and London response of stoicism, open-heartedness, and solidarity.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. HOLDING), chairman of the British-American Parliamentary Group and co-chairman of the Congressional United Kingdom Caucus, and he also has strong family ties in Britain.

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROYCE for yielding me time, and I rise in strong support of this resolution condemning the terror attacks in the United Kingdom.

Mr. Speaker, the senseless acts of terror that took place in Manchester and London are stark reminders of the threat our allies and our Nation face together. These horrific attacks require strong and coordinated response to not only bring the perpetrators and their enablers to justice but also to combat global terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, Congress stands ready to support our colleagues in Parliament with any assistance necessary. The special relationship that bonds our two nations and peoples is unlike any other relationship that we enjoy.

I am reminded of the events 73 years ago today when the United States stood with Great Britain to execute the largest amphibious landing ever assembled in order to liberate Europe. Our task in fighting terrorism is no less daunting.

I appreciate the efforts here today by the House to condemn these acts of terror and reaffirm our unwavering support for the special relationship that we enjoy with the United Kingdom.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, the British people are well known for their stiff upper lip, their resolve, and resilience. We have seen all these traits on display in the recent days in the proud European cities of Manchester and London as the dead are mourned, the injured are nursed to health, and the guilty are pursued.

Life must and will go on, and the United Kingdom will remain the beacon of freedom, tolerance, and justice. I am glad we took this time today to send this strong message of solidarity to the people of the U.K. Through the years, they have long stood by us, and we are proud of their friendship. We call them our friends. I support this measure and trust the House will do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE), chairman of the Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me time and for his work on this very important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, last month, as fans streamed out of a concert in Manchester, they were met by the worst kind of despicable treachery. A terrorist lay in wait with his time bomb to inflict maximum damage on people, killing as many as he could and creating fear among survivors. Twenty-two innocent people were slaughtered, including many children.

The attack claimed by ISIS thugs was, unfortunately, not the last to hit the United Kingdom. Over the weekend, terrorists attacked innocent civilians in London, killing 7 and wounding at least 48 others.

Free countries cannot and must not tolerate these attacks and must not ever accept these attacks as the norm. We must defeat the cancer of Islamic

terrorism and the perverted thinking that inspires it.

I strongly support this resolution which condemns the attack in Manchester and expresses our support to the people of the United Kingdom. We will and must continue to stand together with the United Kingdom for many reasons, but the main reason being the bond of freedom that we have shared for so many years. We must stand together to combat and defeat those who seek to attack freedom and liberty and destroy our way of life. They must not win.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincere condolences to the victims of the attacks in the United Kingdom and their families. This evil cannot be allowed to continue without a bold response.

Mr. Speaker, justice demands that we track down these terrorists and hold them accountable for their evil deeds whenever and wherever they attack. Justice must be served because, Mr. Speaker, justice is what free people demand.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, following the killing in London this past weekend, British Prime Minister May compared the attacks in Manchester and those in the capital, and she said: “. . . while the recent attacks are not connected by common networks, they are connected in one important sense. They are bound together by the single evil ideology of Islamist extremism that preaches hatred, sows division, and promotes sectarianism.”

“Defeating this ideology is one of the great challenges of our time. . . .”

Those were the Prime Minister’s words.

We are committed to standing with our British friends and allies in this important fight. This resolution signals our resolve to deepen our collaboration with our friends and allies in the United Kingdom to counter terrorism and to counter radicalization.

Mr. Speaker, I, therefore, urge my colleagues to join me in unanimous support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 355, which expresses the condolences of the United States to the twenty-two innocent victims who lost their lives and the fifty-nine individuals who were seriously injured in the barbaric attack perpetrated by a terrorist in Manchester, United Kingdom.

Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution’s condemnation of this terrorist attack for the depraved, cowardly act that it is.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and loved ones of the victims.

Moreover, our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the first responders and others who selflessly came to the aid of those affected by this act.

Manchester will emerge from the attack more vibrant and united than ever before with the same resiliency that has enabled it to grow and evolve from the “birthplace of the Industrial Revolution” to the modern, progressive, and welcoming metropolis that it is today.

As Manchester recovers and responds, I hope that Mancunians and Britons as a whole will take comfort in the knowledge that the people of the United States stand in solidarity with them.

This attack is a reminder of the common danger that democratic, peace-loving nations of the world face from those who reject the norms of civilized society and abuse the liberties and freedoms afforded them by free societies.

This terrorist attack in Manchester was a horrific act on innocent civilians perpetrated by a depraved individual who had the support of those who misuse the peaceful religion of Islam for their own misguided purposes.

Those who claim responsibility for this crime against humanity should make no mistake; they will be held accountable for their actions.

Today, however, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Manchester, a city that represents everything terrorists despise—that is, a place that welcomes people from all walks of life to live together in harmony.

That symbol is recognizable to Americans, because we are a society formed by diverse individuals intertwined to create a mosaic that is altogether lovely, strong, and unique.

Given our special relationship with the United Kingdom, the people of the United States of America offer our unwavering support to the people of Manchester and of the United Kingdom.

Today, I ask a moment of silence for the victims killed and injured in the terrorist attack in Manchester.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 355, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o’clock and 39 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1829

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING) at 6 o’clock and 29 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 354, by the yeas and nays; and
H. Res. 355, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

CONDEMNING VIOLENCE AGAINST PEACEFUL PROTESTERS OUTSIDE THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR’S RESIDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 354) condemning the violence against peaceful protesters outside the Turkish Ambassador’s residence on May 16, 2017, and calling for the perpetrators to be brought to justice and measures to be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 397, nays 0, not voting 33, as follows:

[Roll No. 286]

YEAS—397

Abraham	Burgess	Crawford
Adams	Bustos	Crist
Aguilar	Butterfield	Crowley
Allen	Byrne	Cuellar
Amash	Calvert	Culberson
Amodeli	Capuano	Curbelo (FL)
Arrington	Carbajal	Davidson
Babin	Cárdenas	Davis (CA)
Bacon	Carson (IN)	Davis, Danny
Banks (IN)	Carter (GA)	Davis, Rodney
Barr	Carter (TX)	DeFazio
Barragán	Cartwright	DeGette
Barton	Castor (FL)	Delaney
Beatty	Castro (TX)	DeLauro
Bera	Chabot	DeBene
Bergman	Chaffetz	Demings
Beyer	Cheney	Denham
Biggs	Chu, Judy	Dent
Bilirakis	Cicilline	DeSantis
Bishop (GA)	Clark (MA)	DeSaulnier
Bishop (MI)	Clarke (NY)	DesJarlais
Bishop (UT)	Clay	Deutch
Black	Cleaver	Diaz-Balart
Blackburn	Coffman	Dingell
Blum	Cohen	Doggett
Blunt Rochester	Cole	Donovan
Bonamici	Collins (GA)	Doyle, Michael
Bost	Collins (NY)	F.
Boyle, Brendan	Comer	Duffy
F.	Comstock	Duncan (SC)
Brady (PA)	Conaway	Duncan (TN)
Brady (TX)	Connolly	Dunn
Brat	Conyers	Emmer
Bridenstine	Cook	Eshoo
Brooks (IN)	Cooper	Espallat
Brown (MD)	Correa	Estes (KS)
Brownley (CA)	Costa	Esty (CT)
Buck	Costello (PA)	Evans
Bucshon	Courtney	Farenthold
Budd	Cramer	Faso